

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): The grid of claim 1 23 wherein the hooks extend rearwardly and laterally outwardly from opposite side edges of the grid for ease of hooking over the container rim.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The grid of claim 1 23 wherein the hooks are flexible, and the forwardly facing, laterally inwardly angled surface of each of the hooks is spaced from respective side edges of the grid a distance less than the width of the container rim thus requiring the hooks to be flexed and press fitted over the container rim.

Claim 5 (original): The grid of claim 4 wherein the hooks have an interference fit with the outer cylindrical surface of the container when the hooks are hooked over the container rim, whereby the inturned lip of the hooks will remain in a slightly flexed state

pressing against the outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim when the hooks are hooked over the container rim.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The grid of claim 4 23 wherein the hooks are spaced from a bottom edge of the grid a distance slightly greater than the height of the container, whereby when the grid is inserted into the container top opening and the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the bottom edge of the grid will engage an inside bottom surface of the container.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The grid of claim 6 further comprising a pair of laterally spaced feet extending rearwardly from a bottom edge of the grid for substantial flat engagement with the inside bottom surface of the container and with an inner cylindrical surface of the container to prevent the grid from moving within the container during rolling of a roller cover on the wiping surface.

Claim 8 (original): The grid of claim 7 wherein the feet extend rearwardly at a slight outward angle relative to respective side edges of the grid and have outwardly facing outer ends that engage the inner cylindrical surface of the container.

Claim 9 (original): The grid of claim 8 wherein the outer ends of the respective feet are angled rearwardly and inwardly for making contact with the inner cylindrical surface of the container.

Claims 10 and 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (previously presented): A paint roller grid comprising a wiping surface for wiping a roller cover against the wiping surface, a frame extending completely around the wiping surface, at least one hook extending rearwardly from the frame for hooking over an upper rim of a cylindrical container when the grid is inserted into a top opening of the container, and a pair of laterally spaced feet extending rearwardly from a bottom edge of the frame for engagement with an inner cylindrical surface of the container to prevent the grid from moving within the container during rolling of a roller cover on the wiping surface.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The grid of claim 12 wherein the feet are rigidly affixed to the bottom edge of the frame and extend rearwardly at a slight outward angle relative to respective side edges of the frame and have outwardly facing outer ends that engage the inner cylindrical surface of the container.

Claim 14 (original): The grid of claim 13 wherein the outer ends of the respective feet are angled rearwardly and inwardly for making contact with the inner cylindrical surface of the container.

Claim 15 (original): The grid of claim 14 wherein the outer ends of the respective feet have a convex curvature for making increased surface contact with the inner cylindrical surface of the container.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The grid of claim 12 wherein a pair of hooks extend rearwardly from opposite side edges of the frame in spaced relation from a bottom edge of the frame a distance slightly greater than the height of the container, whereby when the grid is inserted into the container top opening and the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the bottom edge of the frame and the feet will engage an inside bottom surface of the container.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The grid of claim 16 wherein the wiping surface has an apertured portion that extends axially outwardly beyond the hooks, whereby when the grid is inserted into the container top opening and the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the apertured portion will extend upwardly above the container rim.

Claim 18 (cancelled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): The combination of claim ~~18~~ 26 wherein the hooks have an interference fit with the outer cylindrical surface of the container, whereby the inturned lip of the hooks is in a slightly flexed state pressing against the outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim.

Claims 20-22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (new): A paint roller grid comprising a wiping surface for wiping a roller cover thereagainst, and a pair of laterally spaced hooks extending rearwardly from the grid for

hooking over an upper rim of a cylindrical container when the grid is inserted into a top opening of the container, each of the hooks including a rearwardly extending upper portion adapted to extend over an upper surface of the container rim and a downwardly extending inturned lip having a forwarding facing, laterally inwardly angled surface for engaging an outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim when the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the forwarding facing, laterally inwardly angled surface of each of the hooks having a concave curvature for engaging the outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim.

Claim 24 (new): A paint roller grid comprising a wiping surface for wiping a roller cover thereagainst, and a pair of laterally spaced hooks extending rearwardly from the grid for hooking over an upper rim of a cylindrical container when the grid is inserted into a top opening of the container, each of the hooks including a rearwardly extending upper portion adapted to extend over an upper surface of the container rim and a downwardly extending inturned lip having a forwarding facing, laterally inwardly angled surface for engaging an outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim when the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the hooks being spaced from a bottom edge of the grid a distance slightly greater than the height of the container, whereby when the grid is inserted into the container top opening and the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the bottom edge of the grid will engage an inside bottom surface of the container, and a pair of laterally spaced feet extending rearwardly from a bottom edge of the grid for substantial flat engagement with the inside bottom surface of the container and with an inner cylindrical surface of the container to prevent the grid from

moving within the container during rolling of a roller cover on the wiping surface, the feet extending rearwardly at a slight outward angle relative to respective side edges of the grid and have outwardly facing outer ends that engage the inner cylindrical surface of the container, the outer ends of the respective feet being angled rearwardly and inwardly for making contact with the inner cylindrical surface of the container, and the outer ends of the respective feet having a convex curvature for making increased contact with the inner cylindrical surface of the container.

Claim 25 (new): A paint roller grid comprising a wiping surface for wiping a roller cover thereagainst, and a pair of laterally spaced hooks extending rearwardly from the grid for hooking over an upper rim of a cylindrical container when the grid is inserted into a top opening of the container, each of the hooks including a rearwardly extending upper portion adapted to extend over an upper surface of the container rim and a downwardly extending intumed lip having a forwarding facing, laterally inwardly angled surface for engaging an outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim when the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the wiping surface having an apertured portion that extends axially outwardly beyond the hooks, whereby when the grid is inserted into the container top opening and the hooks are hooked over the container rim, the apertured portion will extend upwardly above the container rim.

Claim 26 (new): In combination, a cylindrical container having a closed bottom and a top opening surrounded by a container rim, and a paint roller grid inserted into the top opening of the container, the grid comprising a wiping surface for wiping a roller cover

against the wiping surface, and a pair of laterally spaced hooks extending rearwardly from the grid hooked over the container rim, each of the hooks including a rearwardly extending upper portion extending over an upper surface of the container rim and a downwardly extending inturned lip having a forwardly facing, laterally inwardly angled surface engaging an outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim, the hooks being spaced from a bottom edge of the grid a distance slightly greater than the height of the container, whereby the bottom edge of the grid engages an inside bottom surface of the container, a frame extending completely around the wiping surface, and a pair of laterally spaced feet extending rearwardly from a bottom edge of the frame in substantial flat engagement with the inside bottom surface of the container and with an inner cylindrical surface of the container to prevent the grid from moving within the container during rolling of a roller cover on the wiping surface.

Claim 27 (new): In combination, a cylindrical container having a closed bottom and a top opening surrounded by a container rim, and a paint roller grid inserted into the top opening of the container, the grid comprising a wiping surface for wiping a roller cover against the wiping surface, and a pair of laterally spaced hooks extending rearwardly from the grid hooked over the container rim, each of the hooks including a rearwardly extending upper portion extending over an upper surface of the container rim and a downwardly extending inturned lip having a forwardly facing, laterally inwardly angled surface engaging an outer cylindrical surface of the container below the container rim, the wiping surface including an apertured portion that extends axially outwardly beyond the hooks, and a frame extending completely around the wiping surface, whereby the

grid extends upwardly above the container rim to allow a handle of a roller frame to be hooked over an upper edge of the frame with the roller frame extending into the container for supporting a roller cover above the level of paint in the container.